

John and Ken who turned out to help to tidy up and clean St. Jude's in preparation for our service.

Visit from the Bishop of Auckland: Bishop Ross Bay will be visiting us for our 9.30am service and morning tea at St. Peter's Bombay on Sunday 19 August. Bishop Ross will preach and preside at our Holy Communion and we look forward to welcoming him on that day.

THIS WEEK 29 July-5 August

Sunday 5 August

9:30am Family Service at St Peter's, Bombay

Readings: 2 Samuel 11: 26-12:13a; Ephesians 4: 1-16; **John 6: 24-35**

Contacts

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St Peter's in the Forest, Bombay – St Mary on the Hill, Pokeno – St Jude's, Mercer
– Maramarua – Mangatangi/Miranda – Kaiaua
www.bombay-pokeno.org.nz

~ You are welcome to take the Tidings with you ~

Tidings

for the Bombay-Pokeno Anglican Church

worshipping at Bombay, Pokeno, Mercer and Kaiaua

www.bombay-pokeno.org.nz

29 July 2018

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Welcome & Gathering

A very warm welcome to you, and especially to any visitors, as we gather to praise and worship God this morning.

Theme

Do Not Be Afraid

Today's service can be found on page 476 of the NZ Prayer Book...

Sentence of the Day

'I am the living bread that came down from heaven,' says the Lord. 'Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

John 6: 51

Prayer of the Day

Generous God,

**you show compassion to the hungry and needy,
grant us the grace to share freely of our limited resources;
help us to value every contribution offered
and to give and receive graciously of your love.**

**Through Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.**

Amen.

Celebrating Common Prayer: A Version for Aotearoa, New Zealand, & Polynesia

Readings: 2 Samuel 11: 1-15; Ephesians 3: 14-21; **John 6: 1-21**

Reflection

This Sunday's Gospel reading covers St. John's account of the "feeding of the five thousand" – the miracle story in which Jesus gives thanks for the food that is available – five barley loaves and two fishes – and then instructs his disciples to distribute the food among the five thousand people gathered on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. From these meagre resources the five thousand people have enough to eat and there is enough food left over to fill twelve baskets. St. John underlines the fact that this event takes place when the Feast of the Passover "is at hand", and so the associations with God delivering the people from slavery in Egypt and feeding them with the "manna" bread in the wilderness are clearly present. John follows this story with lengthy passages recording Jesus teaching about himself as "the true bread from heaven" and the "bread of life". Jesus extends this description of himself as the "bread of life" to convey that his life, love and presence is offered to all of us – just like all those people crowded by the sea shore are offered, then receive, and are fed by the bread and fish that Jesus blessed and handed out to them. This is a gift of God through Jesus that remains true and active for us – powerfully present in our Holy Communion and present to us day by day as we open ourselves to God's love working in us and through us. Just like those crowds beside the sea shore we are offered the bread of life – and there is plenty of it – more than enough to go around – and the call to us is to "take...eat"...

Every Blessing,

Andrew

Prayers

Bidding: Loving Father:
Response: **give us today our daily bread.**

The congregation are invited to sit after the offertory hymn for the Great Thanksgiving Prayer.

During the week please remember in your prayers – In our intercessions we pray for our three Tikanga Church and our Bishops, Bishop Ross and Assistant Bishop Jim, and Bishops Kito and Winston. We pray for all ministry units and chaplaincies in our Diocese. We pray for our country and for those who hold leadership roles and positions of responsibility. In particular we pray for those who are unwell or in need and for those who provide support to them. We pray too, for the faithful departed and for those who grieve.

Goodwill offerings – Your contribution for the work of our church will be collected during the Offertory Hymn. Our regular parishioners contribute by envelope or by automatic payment. One off or regular payments can be made on line. Our bank account is **Bombay Pokeno Parish 02-0404-0013078-00**. Include your initials and name to be eligible for tax deductions. It costs our parish about \$1600 per week to run.

Food Bank – The Manurewa Anglican Parish Foodbank Programme continues to welcome your contributions of food to support families in need.

NOTICES & COMING EVENTS

Cleaning Roster – St. Mary's: We need to rebuild a roster of volunteers to help clean St. Mary's Church prior to our services twice per month. The work is not arduous and the more who join the roster the less each one will need to do. Please contact Janet McRobbie Ph. 09 233 6293 janetmcrobbie@hotmail.com

Service at St. Jude's – This Sunday is the first fifth Sunday of a month when we will have our 9.30am service at St. Jude's Mercer – and after the service we will enjoy morning tea together at the Mercer Service Centre. Many thanks to Beverley, Janet, Marcia and